
HOUSE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THAT THE DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL
SERVICES IS URGED TO OPERATE THE WATER PUMPING SYSTEM OF
THE STATE CAPITOL PONDS FOR TWO HOURS PER DAY.

1 WHEREAS, the State Capitol's original design did not
2 include a surrounding reflecting pool; and
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4 WHEREAS, the concept of a surrounding pond was later
5 suggested to Governor John A. Burns by Jacqueline Kennedy; and
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7 WHEREAS, the design of the State Capitol Building was
8 intended to serve as a representation of the Hawaiian Islands
9 with numerous instances of symbolism being used such as the
10 volcano shaped chambers of the House of Representatives and the
11 Senate; the chandeliers in each chamber serving as a
12 representation of the sun and moon; the pillars representing
13 palm trees; and the color schemes in the chambers and throughout
14 the Capitol Building representing the ocean and the earth; and
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16 WHEREAS, determining that the idea of a pond surrounding
17 the State Capitol as a representation of the beauty of the blue
18 Pacific Ocean which surrounds our island home fit into this
19 entire theme of the design of the State Capitol, the decision
20 was made to include two ponds in the final design of the State
21 Capitol Building; and
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23 WHEREAS, the ponds surrounding the State Capitol Building
24 have become an integral part of the structure and have become a
25 place where people sit to relax near the calm and soothing flow
26 of the water; and
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28 WHEREAS, prior to the renovation of the State Capitol in
29 the 1990s, fish thrived in the surrounding pond; however, after
30 renovations were completed, the decision was made not to
31 replenish the surrounding ponds with fish; and



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2 WHEREAS, unbeknownst to many, the waters of the surrounding
3 pond are mainly composed of salt water and numerous salt water
4 fish, including Manini, Mamo, Kala, Papio, Aholehole, and Mullet
5 now live in the pond along with Tilapia; and
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7 WHEREAS, although a system exists to pump water into the
8 surrounding ponds causing the circulation of water and creating
9 an aerated environment, the pumping system is often not used
10 causing the surrounding ponds to become stagnant and odorous due
11 in part to this lack of circulation; and
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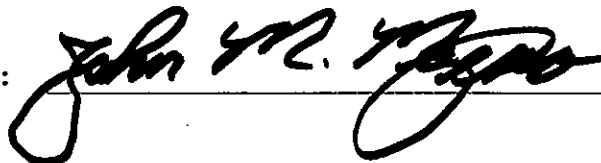
13 WHEREAS, some have expressed that the water of the
14 surrounding pond was cleaner when fish were able to thrive in
15 the pond and that there is a noticeable difference in the
16 quality of the water when the pumps are run, even just for a few
17 hours a day; and
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19 WHEREAS, maintaining the marine life population in the
20 ponds surrounding the State Capitol Building, a uniqueness
21 recognized nationally, as being the only Capitol Building in the
22 United States surrounding by a pond containing marine fish; now,
23 therefore,
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25 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
26 Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular
27 Session of 2015, that the Department of Accounting and General
28 Services is urged to operate the water pumping system of the
29 State Capitol Ponds for two hours per day in order to circulate
30 the water contained in the pond; and
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32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the certified copies of this
33 resolution be sent to the State Comptroller and the building
34 manager of the State Capitol Building; and
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OFFERED BY:



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